

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, comprising:

a filter for inputting a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detector installed within the pipe and subjecting the flow rate signal to a filter processing; and

a selector for comparing the flow rate signal outputted from the flow rate detector and a filter signal outputted from the filter to select the signal having a higher voltage from the flow rate signal and the filter signal as a new flow rate signal.

2. (previously presented): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter is comprised of a low-pass filter, and the filter processing is a processing for delaying the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

3. (previously presented): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter comprised of a high-pass filter, and the filter processing is a processing for advancing the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

4. (previously presented): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter processing executed by the filter is a processing for arithmetically operating a value lower than a mean value of the flow rate signal by a predetermined value to output the resultant value.

5. (currently amended): In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising: comparing a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detection means installed within the ~~suction~~ pipe and a filter signal obtained by subjecting the flow rate signal to a filter processing using a previously set filter function, and selecting the signal having a higher voltage from the flow rate signal and the filter signal as a new flow rate signal.

6. (previously presented): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for delaying the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

7. (original): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for advancing the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

8. (original): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for arithmetically operating a value lower than a mean value of the flow rate signal by a predetermined value to output the resultant value.

9. (previously presented): In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising:

receiving data on a throttle aperture of the internal combustion engine and data on the number of revolutions of the internal combustion engine, and judging whether or not the throttle aperture is equal to or larger than a set value for the throttle aperture previously set in correspondence to the number of revolutions; and

when the throttle aperture is equal to or larger than the set value, judging whether or not a value of a flow rate signal outputted from the flow rate detection means installed within the pipe is equal to or smaller than a set value for a flow rate signal previously set, and selecting the set value as a new flow rate signal when the value of the flow rate signal is equal to or smaller than the set value.

10. (previously presented): In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising:

receiving data on a pressure within the pipe and data on the number of revolutions of the internal combustion engine to judge whether or not the pressure is equal to or larger than a set value for the pressure previously set in correspondence to the number of revolutions; and

when the pressure is equal to or larger than the set value, judging whether or not a value of a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detection means installed within the pipe is equal to or smaller than a set value for the flow rate signal previously set, and selecting the set value as a new flow rate signal when the value of the flow rate signal is equal to or smaller than the set value.

11. (previously presented): A fuel controller for carrying out fuel control using the heat sensitive flow meter as claimed in claim 1.